

Wednesday Morning  
22 Sept 12

My Dear Mother

I am very sorry

to have missed you now I  
believe there especially  
as I am unable to accompany  
you today to "Lodges"  
will tomorrow be convenient  
for you if so I will be  
with you a little before

4 o'clock

I find yesterday with the  
bulletin & Mrs C. gave  
me for my "Lodges" the  
accompanying Thursday Book  
I believe the long ago Mother  
here. If you do not go before tomorrow



I wish myself better however  
but if you must go today  
then pray put it in your  
Pocket  
ever faithfully Yours  
R Brown



My Dear Nathl A

The Nova Genera  
is purchased. It will be paid  
for as soon I believe as you  
send in your Bill or Note of  
the price to Mr Hall  
Yours in the greatest  
haste W Brown

Monday Nov.



Robert

Brown, Mrs. Bennett

No. 27th (myself) Auburn,

Connecticut



4  
17 Dean Street Soho  
London  
Aug<sup>r</sup> 10. 1857.

My Illustrious & very dear Friend  
I am so ready to embrace  
any occasion which will bring myself to Your  
kind recollection that I am very likely sometimes  
to be guilty of indiscretion.

This note will be delivered to You by Mr Polyblank  
a distinguished Photographer. who has for some time  
been engaged in taking Portraits of Scientific Men, mostly  
members of the Linnean Club. who are all very  
desirous of preserving Your Portrait to this series; and  
to obtain Your kind permission to sit to him for  
Your Photographic Portrait is Mr Polyblank's only  
object in visiting Berlin. He has applied to me for  
a letter of introduction and I have I fear very inadequately  
written the present note which I would not have done  
did I suppose that the operation required many minutes  
of Your time.

I hear from several quarters very favourable accounts  
of Your health which it would give me the greatest  
pleasure to have confirmed by Yourself. As

May  
at day



As to myself now far advanced in my 84<sup>th</sup> year  
I am still able to move about and am still doing my  
Duty in the British Museum I am beginning however  
to lose my Memory of recent impressions but my sight  
and hearing are unimpaired

That you may long continue to enjoy your present good  
health & unimpaired faculties is the earnest prayer  
of Dear Baron Humboldt  
Your attached and deeply indebted friend  
Robert Brown

To His Excellency Baron Humboldt



E/1

5/1

BROWN, Robt.

Robert Brown.

1773 — 1858.

Botanist.

BROWN, ROBERT, D.C.L., F.R.S., an eminent botanist, was the son of a Scottish Episcopalian clergyman, and educated for the medical profession, accompanying, in 1795, a Scottish fencible regiment to Ireland. His peculiar aptitude for botanical study had, however, already developed itself; and on his friend Sir Joseph Banks's recommendation, he threw up his commission, and, in 1801, embarked as naturalist in the expedition under Captain Flinders, for the survey of the Australian coasts. Thence he returned to England, in 1805, bringing with him nearly 4,000 species of plants, a large proportion of which were entirely new to science, and also an inexhaustible store of new ideas in relation to the characters, distribution, and affinities of the singular vegetation which distinguishes the great continent of Australia from every other botanical region. To work out these ideas, both in relation to the plants of New Holland and in their comparison with those of other parts of the world, with wonderful sagacity, with the utmost minuteness of detail, and, at the same time, with the most comprehensive generalization, was the labour of many succeeding years. Honours were showered on him from all lands. His illustrious friend Alexander Von Humboldt justly called him "Botanicorum facile Princeps;" and after the death of Dryander, in 1810, he received the charge of the noble library and splendid collections of Sir Joseph Banks, who bequeathed to him their enjoyment for life. At a later period these were, with his assent, transferred to the British Museum, where, for 30 years, he was keeper of botany, receiving also a pension of £200 per annum, in recognition of his distinguished merits. He was for four years president of the Linnæan Society.

Born at Montrose, 1773; died in London, 1858.



## THE LATE MR. BROWN, D.C.L.

THOUGH less popularly known as a man of science than many of his contemporaries, those whose studies have enabled them to appreciate the labours of Brown rank him with the very foremost scientific men of this country. Till his time botany can scarcely be said to have a scientific foundation. It consisted of a large number of ill-observed and badly-arranged facts. By the use of the microscope, and the conviction of the necessity of studying the history of the development of the plant in order to ascertain its true structure and relations, Brown changed the face of botany. He gave life and significance to that which had been dull and purposeless. His influence was felt in every direction. The microscope became a necessary instrument in the hands of the philosophical botanist, and the history of development was the basis on which all improvement in classification was carried on. This influence extended from the vegetable to the animal kingdom. Brown had, in fact, in the beginning of the present century grasped the great ideas of growth and development which are now the beacon lights of all research in biological science.

The late Robert Brown was the son of a Scottish Episcopalian clergyman, and was born at Montrose, on the 21st of December, 1773. His academical education was acquired first at Marischal College, Aberdeen, and subsequently at the University of Edinburgh, where he completed his medical studies in 1795, and in the same year accompanied a Scottish Fencible Regiment, in the double capacity of Ensign and Assistant Surgeon, to Ireland. His intense love and peculiar aptitude for botanical study had already developed itself, and recommended him to the notice of Sir Joseph Banks, who continued through life to be his sincere and ardent friend. On Sir Joseph's recommendation, and attracted by the more than golden promise which the then unexplored regions of New Holland held out to the botanical inquirer, he threw up his commissions, and in 1801 embarked as naturalist in the expedition under Captain Flinders for the survey of the Australian coasts. From this expedition he returned to England in 1805, bringing with him nearly 4000 species of plants, a large proportion of which were entirely new to science, and bringing with him, also, an inexhaustible store of new ideas in relation to the characters, distribution, and affinities of the singular vegetation which distinguishes the great continent of Australia from every other botanical region. To work out these ideas, both in relation to the plants of New Holland and in their comparison with those of other parts of the world, with wonderful sagacity, with the utmost minuteness of detail, and at the same time with the most comprehensive generalisation, was the labour of many succeeding years. His memoirs on "Asclepiadaceæ and Proteaceæ" in the Transactions of the Linnean Society, his "Prodromus Floræ Novæ Hollandiæ," vol. 1, published in 1810, and his "General Remarks, Geographical and Systematical, on the Botany of Terra Australis," published in 1814, revealed to the scientific world how great a master in botanical science had arisen among us. Nor was the world slow in recognising his merits. The natural system of Jussieu had hitherto made but little progress in England, or anywhere out of France; but its adoption by one who was instinctively recognised as the first botanist of the age, and the important modifications which he introduced into it, speedily compelled an almost universal assent to its principles, and led to its general substitution in place of the Linnean method. It is not our purpose here to enter into anything like a detailed account of the numerous memoirs contained in the transactions of societies and in the appendices to the most important books of travels or voyages of discovery in which he shed new and unexpected light on many of the most difficult problems in the reproduction, the anatomy, the distribution, the characters, and the affinities of plants. It is sufficient to say that the universal consent of botanists recognised the title conferred upon him by his illustrious friend Alexander von



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FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY MAULL AND POLYBLANK.

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who were admitted to the privilege of his intimacy, and who knew him as a man, bear unanimous testimony to the unvarying simplicity, truthfulness, and benevolence of his character.

With his faculties unclouded to the last, he died on the 10th ult., surrounded by his collections, in the room which had formerly been the library of Sir Joseph Banks. "It was in the year 1810," says one of his distinguished friends, who contributed greatly to relieve the sufferings of his last illness, "that I first became acquainted with Mr. Brown, within three feet of the same place in the same room where I saw him so nearly drawing his last breath three days ago. He was the same simple-minded, kind-hearted man in November, 1810, as he was in June, 1858, nothing changed but as time changes us all." His funeral took place on the 15th ult. at the cemetery at Kensal-green, to which it was attended by a numerous concourse of his scientific and personal friends.

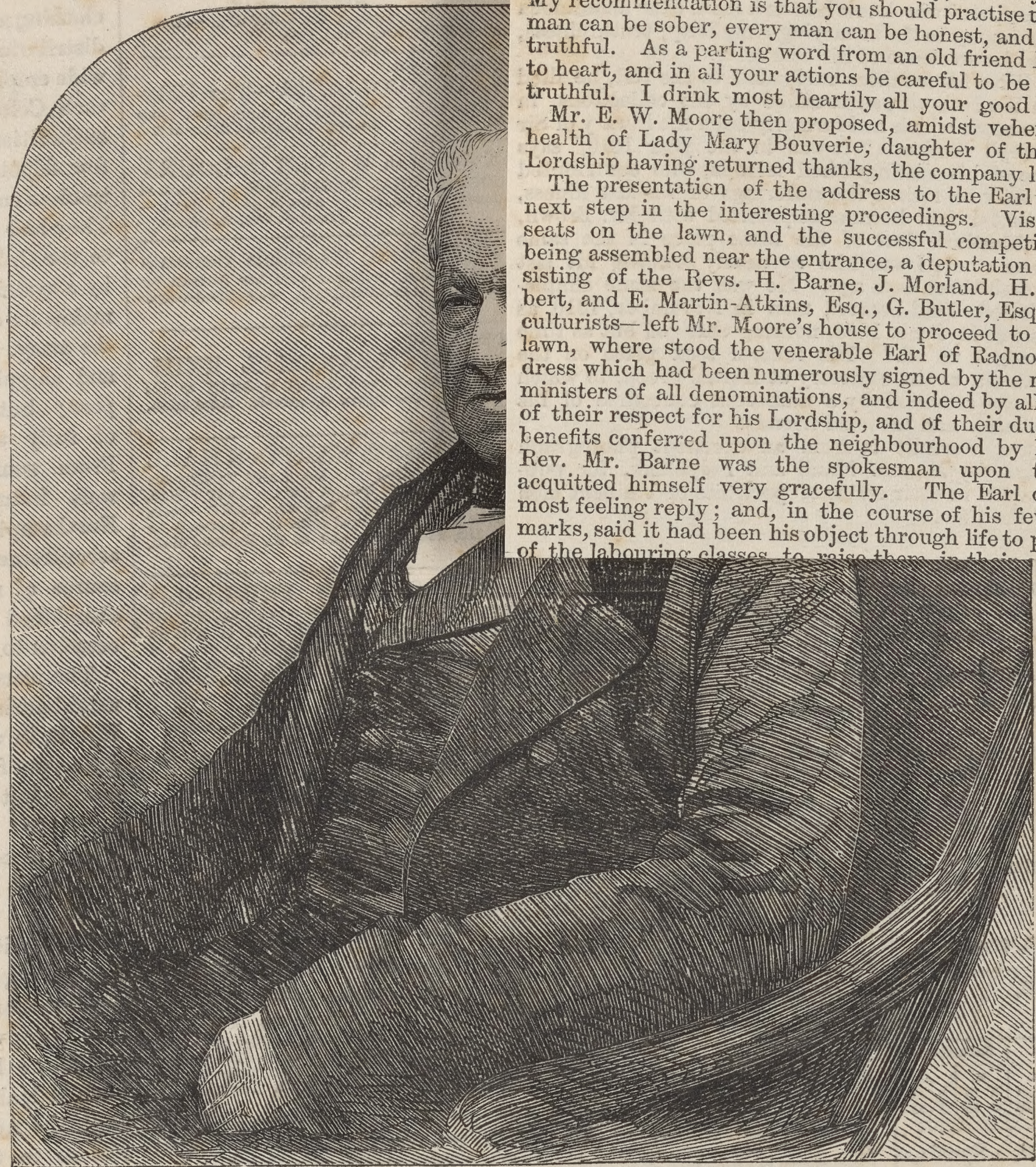
Our Portrait is from an excellent photograph taken by Messrs. Maull and Polyblank, for publication in their series of portraits of eminent men of the time.



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good thing—there is something more valuable which the successful and unsuccessful to-day, may possess. All strive to acquire, and that is honesty, sobriety, and truthfulness. My recommendation is that you should practise these. As a parting word from an old friend I be to heart, and in all your actions be careful to be honest and truthful. I drink most heartily all your good health. Mr. E. W. Moore then proposed, amidst vehement health of Lady Mary Bouverie, daughter of the 1 Lordship having returned thanks, the company left. The presentation of the address to the Earl of next step in the interesting proceedings. Visitors seats on the lawn, and the successful competitor being assembled near the entrance, a deputation of consisting of the Revs. H. Barne, J. Morland, H. Ma bert, and E. Martin-Atkins, Esq., G. Butler, Esq., v culturists—left Mr. Moore's house to proceed to the lawn, where stood the venerable Earl of Radnor, dress which had been numerous signed by the mag ministers of all denominations, and indeed by all cl of their respect for his Lordship, and of their due se benefits conferred upon the neighbourhood by his Rev. Mr. Barne was the spokesman upon the acquitted himself very gracefully. The Earl of most feeling reply; and, in the course of his few l marks, said it had been his object through life to prom of the labouring classes to raise them to the



# AUTOGRAPHE

de

*Brown*

*Robert*

## OBSERVATIONS

1) L. a. s. (E) 1 p. 8°, Newway 'o. o. u. d.

*Künig's große Künig'sche*

*Zeit. Sammlung d. K. K. K.*

*Einige R. Brown's des Entschlusses des  
nach der Annahme, Brown's Annahme  
jüngere, in der K. K. K.*

2)

L. a. s. 1 1/2 p. 4°, London,  
10. 8. 1857, gerichtet an  
A. v. Humboldt, den er bittet,  
dem Ueberbringer des Schreib-  
ben, einem englischen Photo-  
graphen, zu gestatten, sein  
Portrait aufzunehmen. Teilt  
H. mit, dass er sich trotz sei-  
nes 84. Lebensjahres wohlfühlt  
und seine Arbeit im Britischen  
Museum noch führt und spricht  
die besten Wünsche für Humboldts  
Woltergehen aus.

B r o w n Robert. Dr. jur.  
1832 Oxford; war 1793 - 1800  
Chirurg bei e. schott. Regiment,  
dann Naturforscher b. d. Exped.  
d. Capt. Flinders nach Australien  
/bis 1805 bes. auf Neu-Holland  
für botan. Untersuch., seit  
1806 Bibliothekar d. Linnean  
Soc., 1847-49 Präsident dieser  
Gesellsch., seit 1810 Aufseher  
d. Banks'schen Sammlungen, & nach  
Vereinigung dieser/1827/mit d.  
Brit. Museum Custos an demselben;  
Mitglied der Roy. Soc. & d. Geolog..  
Soc. etc. /PRS 9/GS/

geb. 1773, Dec. 21, Montrose,  
Schottl.

gest. 1858, Juni 10. London

/gest. Juni 12/Gersdorf, Repert.  
1858/.

Edinburgh. J. of sc.: Additional  
remarks on active molecules. /7,  
1829/. - Viele & wichtige botan.  
Arbeiten.

Edinburgh. New. Phil. J.: A brief  
account of microsc. observations  
etc. and on the general existence  
of active molecules in org. and  
in inorganic bodies, 13 p/5, 1828/.







Sir William J. Hooker

Director Royal Botanic Gardens Kew

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Nathaniel WAZLICH

former Director Calcutta Botanic Gardens, India